

ABSTRACT

An articulation member for use in a surgical apparatus provides articulation between a surgical tool and a surgical arm configured with a spherical ball. The articulation member includes a pair of opposed clamping members each having a socket portion for receiving the ball end of the surgical arm, and each having a clamp surface for receiving an insertable portion of the surgical tool. The articulation member also includes a locking member moveable between a loosened and a tightened configuration. In the loosened configuration, the orientation of the ball relative to the socket portions is modifiable so as to permit relative pivotal movement between the surgical arm and the surgical tool. In the tightened configuration, the locking member simultaneously urges the socket portions toward the ball, and the clamp surfaces toward the insertable tool portion, thereby frictionally locking the orientation of the surgical tool relative to the surgical arm.